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1897.

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

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On Tuesday and Wednesday a "Star" ferry

launched will run between Plover's Wharf and

Bowman's Wharf, during the afternoon.

Particulars will be given in the advertisement in

another column. Alterations in the time table

of the Kowloon ferry service on the days named

are also notified.

We are requested to ask gentlemen who have

obtained promises of letters from Mr. H. B.

Wodhouse to send to the Press, front of the

City Hall on Monday morning, not later than

at which hour they will be issued. Gentlemen

requiring them at an earlier date can obtain

them upon applying direct to Mr. Wodhouse.

In the event of the Senate and House of

Representatives endorsing the action of the

President, there is not likely to be any

serious opposition to the annexation of the

Hawaiian Islands to the United

States. The British Government will not

raise any protest, for although British in-

terests are considerable in the whilom

kingdom those of American citizens are

greater. Years ago, if we remember rightly,

Great Britain was asked to establish a pro-

tection over the islands but refused to do

so, partly from an indisposition to intervene

and partly from a desire not to wound

American susceptibilities. British interests

in the islands will be much more assured if

the islands are annexed to the United States

than they would be, say, under Japanese

rule, and England is not wont to act the

part of the dog in the manger. A crisis

has undoubtedly arrived in the history of

the islands. The provisional Government has

come into collision with Japan, and must

either buckle down to superior force or

must seek outside assistance to endorse

and defend its action in excluding Japanese

immigrants. Rightly or wrongly, the island

Government has become alarmed at the

influx of the Japanese. The population of

the islands in 1890 was 89,990, of whom

84,686 (half over one-third) were natives,

6,188 (Chinese), 7,495 (born in Hawaii of

European and American parents), 15,301

Chinese, 12,260 Japanese, 8,602 Portuguese,

1,928 Americans, 1,844 British, 1,034 Ger-

mans, 297 Norwegians, 70 French, 538

Polynesians, and 419 other foreigners. At

the present moment the Japanese population

is estimated at nearly 80,000, and is con-

stantly increasing. The recent success of

Japanese arms over China, the acquisition

by Japan of a powerful fleet, and the appear-

ance in so many foreign ports of Japanese

merchants, have strongly impressed the

Government of weaker States, and there is

obviously some likelihood of Japanese in-

terests in the group eventually overshadow-

ing those of all other Powers combined.

There are, too, many temptations to Japan

to aspire to the sovereignty of these lovely

and fertile islands. They already afford a

capital field for Japanese labour and would,

if acquired, give employment for Japanese

capital and manufacturing industry. The

Japanese might also win over the support of

the natives, who are not antipathetic, and

they would soon find ways of ousting the

Chinese population. It would therefore be

far less difficult for Japan to absorb Hawaii

than it has proved for her to assimilate

Formosa. Not unreasonably Japan has

protested against the American annexation

of the islands, and Germany may be inclined

to follow suite, but if the American people

approve, the treaty will be ratified, England

acquiescing. Some action has become neces-

sary in the interests of the Caucasian re-

sident in Hawaii, and if the United States

Congress were to decline to endorse Presi-

dent McKinley's action, Great Britain

would probably be asked to annex the

islands in order to save them from becoming

the appanage of an Oriental State. But

there is little question of the treaty being

accepted by the American nation. Such

acquiescence will necessarily mark a new

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THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

The following is the order of the procession

to be observed at the commemorative service at

St. John's Cathedral, tomorrow.

CHORUS.

Mr. Crawford. Mr. Danby.

Mr. Riddle. Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Gray. Mr. Fong-Wa Chuen.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.

Mr. Ho. Mr. Ho.







